

has pointed out there really is no loss of authority by this body. Obviously if the tax commissioner.... By the way the tax commissioner is appointed by the Governor, and a tax commissioner is not going to do anything and keep their job. That is contrary to what the Governor wants. So what you are really doing is placing the responsibility on the office of Governor, not the tax commissioner, not in the final analysis. But if they do make an error, obviously we'll be in session, and those adjustments can be made. I think it is particularly important, we are talking about major change. Senator Johnson has pointed out, at least under the current budget, it would take at least \$16 million of lost revenue on the individual income tax before it even would be considered for implementation. That, I think, is significant. Finally, to argue we should do nothing, waiting for a tax study, which we all know is not anticipated to be completed until the 1988 session, not if it is the kind of study that ought to be done, all of us have talked about it as a matter of fact for some years, on that basis this piece of legislation is going to be very significant between now and 1988 if you want some stability to tax receipts. I'd urge you not to indefinitely postpone the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lamb, please. Then Senator Abboud.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members, I rise to support the motion to indefinitely postpone. The arguments have been pretty well made in that the tax commissioner will have a fairly broad authority in adjusting these tax rates. And I have a problem with the bill on two fronts. One is that we do allow the tax commissioner or, as Senator Warner suggest, the Governor to calculate and adjust the rates without the consent of the Legislature. The other concern I have is that there is a difference of opinion of exactly how the federal changes do effect the state's revenue. It is not spelled out in this bill, to my knowledge, how that is going to be determined. I think when we were talking about this subject I believe it was in the special session, we had the Department of Revenue had one number that they indicated would be an equivalent rate, taking into consideration the federal changes. The Department of Business Research of the university had another number. And I think a leading economist in the state had a different number. We had at least three numbers as to exactly how that change did impact on the federal income tax rate. So as I read this bill all it says is that the tax commissioner shall calculate the individual income tax rate to reverse the percentage effect determined in